

The path to ...

**a healthier
planet.**




SUN  **Watts**

The path to a cleaner, healthier environment starts with SunWatts™, a program designed to help customers of Arizona's Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives take part in renewable electric generation technologies throughout Arizona.

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**Sulphur Springs Valley
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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What is ...



Care of our environment is a growing concern among electric cooperative customers. Many folks want a 'green' alternative for their energy needs. That's where the SunWatts™ program comes in.

SunWatts, developed by SSVEC and Arizona's Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, offers you a way to take part in the exciting and growing renewable and photovoltaic (solar) movement in Arizona.

The SunWatts program has two parts:

- **The SunWatts Contribution Program**
- **The SunWatts Incentive Program**

Each of these programs is discussed in more detail in this handbook. You'll also find sign-up forms as well as the necessary NEC code and IEEE Standards information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact SSVEC at:

Business: David Bane, (520) 515-3472

Agriculture: Jack Crask, (520) 384-5515

Residential: Albert Gomez, (520) 515-3473; LaDonna Burgess, (520) 384-5511





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Frequently Asked Questions

1.) What is SunWatts™?

SunWatts™ is SSVEC and the Arizona's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' name for its renewable energy programs. These programs include the Contribution Program, the Incentive Program and the Large-Scale Renewable Generation Program.

2.) Where does the SunWatts green power come from?

Renewable energy comes from many different sources including photovoltaic (solar) systems, wind and biomass.

3.) How can I enroll in this program?

Residential and small business customers can choose from two different programs, the Contribution Program or the Incentive Program.

The Contribution Program lets you contribute extra dollars on your bill each month. These dollars will be used for the installation and maintenance of renewable generation projects across Arizona.

The Rebate Program helps you defray the cost of installing a qualifying photovoltaic system in your home or business.

After you've decided what works best for you, just fill out the proper enrollment form, which you can get from SSVEC.

4.) I'm enrolled in the SunWatts Contribution Program. How will I know that green power is actually being provided to my home?

The renewable energy that you're purchasing goes directly into our electric system and displaces our fossil fuel-fired generation.

Your investment in renewable energy helps drive environmental responsibility. All cooperative members benefit when even one member participates in the SunWatts Renewable Energy Program.

5.) How can I get more information about SunWatts?

Call SSVEC and ask to speak with the SunWatts member services representative to request information and enrollment forms.

6.) Why are SSVEC and Arizona's Electric Cooperatives selling green power?

Arizona's electric cooperatives, a part of local communities for more than 60 years, share a commitment to the community and to protecting our environment.

With the SunWatts program, member-customers have an alternative to traditional fossil fuel-fired power sources, something from which we all benefit.

7.) How are landfills used for energy?

Organic matter, such as that buried in landfills, breaks down to produce methane gas. Capturing and burning this gas enables the generation of electricity. By utilizing this energy, we reduce our need to burn non-renewable fossil fuels.

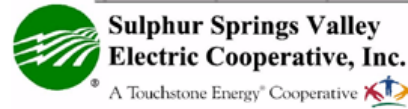
In addition, this generation method prevents methane escaping into the atmosphere.

8.) Why does green power cost more than other power?

Renewable energy is still not widely used and is more expensive to produce than traditional sources. As technology improves, use will increase and development costs will be driven down. Thus, access to renewable fuels should become more economically attractive.



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Contribution Program



Ensure A Bright Future for Planet Earth With SunWatts!

Sunshine - it's one of Arizona's most abundant resources. And, with your help, SSVEC is harnessing the sun's enormous power and turning it into clean, green power.

Solar power generators take the sun's rays and turn them into electric energy that can be used for everything from cooling your home in the summertime to keeping you warm in the winter. And by using the sun's resources, we reduce our reliance on fossil fuel-fired electric generation, thus preserving our valuable natural resources.

With the SunWatts™ Contribution Program, you can help to foster this constantly evolving, exciting technology. You choose the amount you wish to contribute, which will appear as a line item on your monthly bill. These extra dollars will go directly to the installation and maintenance of solar-powered and other renewable generation throughout Arizona. **Your contribution is voluntary and you can opt out at any time - just notify your SSVEC.**

To take part in the SunWatts program, just fill out the form below and enclose it with your bill or drop it by SSVEC's office. Your enrollment will take effect in your next billing cycle.

YES! I want to enroll in SSVEC's SunWatts Contribution Program! By enrolling, I will make a monthly contribution to my co-op's green energy programs.

Please print:

Name: _____

Electric Co-op: _____

Account Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Amount I wish to contribute each month (please check ONE):

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$2.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$7.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$3.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$8.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$4.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$9.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$6.00 | | |

The amount you check will appear as a line item on your bill. Your enrollment will be reflected on your next bill. Contributions are voluntary and you may opt out of the SunWatts Contribution Program at any time. You must notify SSVEC in writing that you wish to opt out. It may take a full billing cycle for the change to appear on your bill.

Incentive Program



Solar power generators take the sun's rays and turn them into electric energy that can be used for everything from cooling your home in the summertime to keeping you warm in the winter. And by using the sun's resources, we reduce our reliance on fossil fuel-fired electric generation, thus preserving our valuable

natural resources.

With the SunWatts™ Incentive Program, you can be on the cutting edge of this exciting technology! SSVEC will pay you **\$4 per installed watt** — up to 2,000 watts for individual residential units, or up to 5,000 watts for small business/commercial units (up to 50% of the total cost of the unit, whichever is lower).

The program is easy!

(1) You select and install a qualifying solar electric system in your home or business. This home or business must be served by SSVEC. Furthermore, this system must meet all qualifications listed in the following "Qualifications" section.

(2) You have a licensed electrician or a SSVEC representative** test and certify that the system meets IEEE and the cooperative's interconnect standards (see 'Qualifications' section). The licensed electrician or distribution co-op rep must also certify the unit's guaranteed output in terms of wattage. This must be done by an actual test of the AC output capacity of the solar electric system. Testing will include PV array DC voltage tracking performed by the inverter at or extrapolated to summer ambient temperature. **The rebate amount you receive is dependent on the outcome of this test.**

(3) You sign an agreement assigning rights to the electrical output and all associated environmental credits to the co-op. Since the co-op is paying up to half the cost of the unit, the co-op **will not** buy any electric generation output from the unit.

(4) You, the owner of the system, are responsible for arranging for and payment of annual service inspections and normal system repairs to the unit, including labor.

(5) In order to receive the rebate, you must submit the following to your electric co-op:

- Certification by a licensed electrician or a SSVEC representative** that the installed unit meets the qualifications as set out in the Incentive Program Systems Qualifications page.
- Proof of the unit's AC output as determined by an actual test of the AC output capacity of the solar electric system. Testing will include PV array DC voltage tracking performed by the inverter at or extrapolated to summer ambient temperature. This testing and certification **must be** performed by a licensed electrician or SSVEC co-op representative. Failure to have a licensed electrician or distribution co-op representative conduct the installation and testing will result in refusal of rebate.
- A signed Incentive Program Enrollment Form.

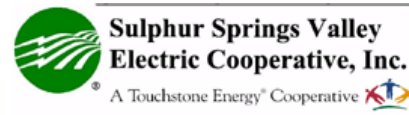
Keep a copy for your records.

(6) Once this proof is submitted, please allow eight weeks for your rebate to be processed.

** Should you elect to have a SSVEC representative do the testing and certification of your system, you will be responsible for any trip charges as billed by SSVEC.



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Incentive Program System Qualifications

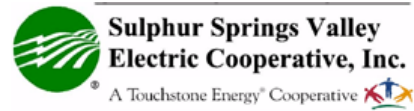
All customer solar electric generating systems must meet the following system and installation requirements to be connected to the electric distribution cooperative system:

1. The Customer System components must be certified as meeting the requirements of IEEE-929 - Recommended Practice for Utility Interface of Photovoltaic Systems.
2. The Customer System Components must be certified as meeting the requirements of UL-1741 - Power Conditioning Units for use in Residential Photovoltaic Power and be covered by a non-prorated manufacturers warranty of at least two years.
3. The Customer System design and installation must meet all requirements of the latest edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC), including Article 690 and all grounding, conductor, raceway, overcurrent protection, disconnect and labeling requirements.
4. The Customer System and installation must meet the requirements of all federal, state and local building codes and have been successfully inspected by the building official having jurisdiction. To do so, the installation must be completed in accordance with the requirements of the latest edition of the NEC in effect in the jurisdiction where the installation is being complete, including, without limitation, Sections 200-6, 210-6, 230-70, 240-3, 250-26, 250-50, 250-122, all of Article 690 pertaining to Solar Photovoltaic Systems, thereof, all as amended and superceded.
5. The Customer System must meet cooperative and Arizona Corporation Commission interconnection requirements for self-generation equipment.
6. The Customer System installation must meet the cooperative Service Requirements as follows:

"An AC disconnect means shall be provided on all ungrounded AC conductors and shall consist of a lockable gang-operated disconnect clearly indicating open or closed. The switch shall be visually inspected to determine that the switch is open. The switch shall be clearly labeled stating "DG Service Disconnect."
7. All Customer System installations must be completed in a professional, workmanlike and safe manner.



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Incentive Program Enrollment Form

By signing below, I am assigning my rights to the electrical output of the unit and all associated environmental credits to SSVEC and its generation cooperative. Further, I understand the cooperative will not buy from me any electric power generated by the solar/photovoltaic unit. Instead, this generation will be used solely to offset my regular electric energy usage provided by the cooperative. I further agree that any generation above and beyond this amount will flow through to the electric grid at no charge.

I understand that as the owner of the equipment, I am fully responsible for the unit's operation and safety. I will arrange and pay for annual service inspections as well as normal system maintenance and repairs to the unit, including labor.

I also agree to allow the distribution cooperative to inspect my unit after installation to ensure it meets requirements set forth in the SunWatts Incentive Program Systems Qualifications documentation. I agree that SSVEC and its generation cooperative, AEPCO, is not in any way responsible for the unit, its safety, operation, insurance or repair.

Please print:

Name: _____

Account Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Processing of the rebate is contingent on the accurate certification/testing of the unit. Rebate processing may take up to eight weeks. SSVEC reserves the right to refuse payment of a rebate based on the following reasons, including but not limited to: failure to meet the qualifications as set forth in the SunWatts Incentive Program System Qualifications documentation, incomplete enrollment packets, insufficient system testing or certification, installation and/or testing/certification by an unlicensed electrician.